

BUMEDINST 1520.34A
BUMED-05
17 Mar 97

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1520.34A

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Medical Department Personnel
Subj: CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR MEDICAL CORPS AND NURSE
CORPS OFFICERS

Ref: (a) Navy Medical Corps Continuing Medical Education
Program, Naval School of Health Sciences, Bethesda,
(Code 07)(NOTAL)
(b) Navy Nurse Corps Continuing Education Approval and
Recognition Program, Naval School of Health
Sciences, Bethesda (Code 67), December 1988 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To maintain a continuing education and recognition program which meets the national accreditation standards of the medical and nursing professions and the credentialing criteria of State boards of medicine and nursing.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1520.34.

3. Background

a. The quality of medical care provided to the Navy and Marine Corps communities depends largely on the competence of Medical Department personnel. The Navy Medical Corps continuing medical education (CME) and the Navy Nurse Corps continuing education (CE) programs, established within the organizational structure of the Naval School of Health Sciences (NSHS), Bethesda, consist of planned activities intended to build on the educational and experiential bases of these officers for the enhancement of practice, education, administration, research, or theory development to improve the health of beneficiaries.

b. Professional competence is increasingly subjected to mandated requirements. These requirements range from programs for certification by professional organizations to State and Federal statutes regulating licensure.

c. With the rapid growth of medical knowledge, advances in technology, emphasis on accountability, and continuing social change, Medical Department personnel shall be given every opportunity to participate in quality CME and CE programs that are recognized and accepted by the credentialing agencies,

certificate programs, professional societies, and the licensing authority of each State.

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d. The Medical Department must promote continued professional growth by maintaining a climate conducive to self-development and to planning and implementing CME and CE programs.

4. Action

a. Commanding Officer, NSHS, Bethesda, has overall responsibility for ensuring the Navy's requirements for CME and CE programs are met. This includes:

(1) Establishing and maintaining procedures and standards for submission, review, and approval of CME and CE programs.

(2) Publishing guidelines that describe the naval Medical Department documentation required for approval of CME and CE programs and recognition for participation in these programs.

(3) Maintaining national accreditation as a provider and approver of CME and CE to ensure transferability and acceptance of CME and CE credits by professional organizations and State regulating boards.

(4) Assisting naval Medical Department activities to plan and implement quality educational opportunities designed to increase competence, promote standards of professional practice, and meet relicensure requirements.

b. Commanding officers and officers in charge are responsible for:

(1) Ensuring that copies of references (a) and (b) are available to appropriate staff personnel responsible for developing CME and CE programs. References may be obtained by writing to the Naval School of Health Sciences, Bethesda (Code 07), 8901 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20889-5612.

(2) Implementing CME and CE programs within their commands.

(3) Maintaining a quality assurance mechanism to meet requirements established in references (a) and (b).

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Available from:
<http://support1.med.navy.mil/bumed/instruct/external/external.htm>